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DATE: November 10, 2004
FILE NO: WEAT/0526.P1
TO: Examiner William P. Neuder
FAX NO: 703/872-9306
COMPANY: USPTO
FROM: William B. Patterson *WBF*
PAGE(S) with cover: 6
ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW? YES NO

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

U.S. SERIAL NO.: 10/717,422
FILING DATE: November 19, 2003
INVENTOR: William Banning Vail, III
EXAMINER: William P. Neuder
GROUP ART UNIT: 3672
CONFIRMATION NO.: 7770

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:
Vail III§
§
§ Group Art Unit: 3672

Serial No.: 10/717,422

§
§ Examiner: William P. Neuder

Filed: November 19, 2003

§
§ Customer No.: 36735

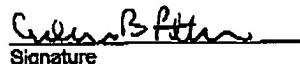
Confirmation No.: 7770

For: Methods and Apparatus for
Cementing Drill Strings in Place
for One Pass Drilling and
Completion of Oil and Gas WellsMAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF FAX
37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 703/872-9308 to the attention of Examiner William P. Neuder on the date below:

10 Nov 2004
Date
Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows: